

Record Series #: 1121-124**Name: Earl and Edna Ashton family papers****Dates: 1902, 1913, 1924-1949, 1975, no date****Extent/Size: 12 legal size folders (0.1 cubic feet)****Language: English****Name of Creator(s):**

Earl Ashton

Edna Campfield Price Ashton

Biographical History:

The Ashtons were a Black family that worked as public servants in Savannah, Georgia, and Washington, D. C.

Earl Ashton (1895-1977) was born to Albert Ashton (1845-1913) and Charlotte Williams Ashton (1858-1906) in Savannah, Georgia, on November 22, 1895. Earl was the youngest of four children and grew up in Savannah. He worked as a newsboy in the early 1900s and as an embalmer at the Royal-Johnson Undertaking Company. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in June 1918 during World War I. Earl did not go overseas and was honorably discharged in 1919.

Earl married Edna Campfield Price (1900-1959) around 1919 in Savannah. Edna was born to George and Lucy Price on July 17, 1900 in Georgia. Earl started work as a United States Postal Carrier in 1920. Edna worked at the United States Marine Hospital, in Savannah, starting in 1948. The couple had one child together, Earl Audinet Ashton, Jr. (1925-1999), who was born in Savannah on New Year's Eve 1925.

Earl, Jr. graduated from Beach High School and received a bachelor's degree in Science from Morehouse College in the early 1940s. He earned a master's degree from Howard University and lived in Washington, D. C. working for the Environmental Protection Agency for the rest of his life.

Edna died on April 5, 1959 and Earl died in 1977. Earl, Jr. had two children and died in 1999. The whole family is buried together in Laurel Grove South Cemetery, Savannah, Georgia.

Scope & Content:

The Earl and Edna Ashton family papers contain documents created by the couple through the course of their lives. Earl Ashton's correspondence discusses the controversial firing of a United States Postal Service employee, J. G. Garey. Other documents in this collection include financial records, employee records from the Savannah office of the United States Post Office, and news clippings. An item of note is the United States Civil Service Commission medical certificate from 1924 for Earl Ashton, which includes his fingerprint.

System of Arrangement & Ordering:

The Earl and Edna Ashton family papers are arranged alphabetically by subject.

Conditions Governing Access:

Collection is stored offsite and researchers must request desired records at least one (1) full business day before scheduled research appointment for access.

Record Series 1121-124, Earl and Edna Ashton family papers***Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:***

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Related Collections:

Record Series 1121-112, W. W. Law personal papers. City of Savannah Municipal Archives, Savannah, Georgia.

Access Points:

African American postal service employees

Letter carriers

United States Civil Service Commission

United States Postal Service

World War, 1914-1918

Sponsors/Funding:

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Processed by:

M. Kerkhoff, July 2021.

Record Series 1121-124, Earl and Edna Ashton family papers*Inventory:**Box**Folder Number**Folder Title, Date (s)***Box 1121-000-0005**

Folder 1121-124-001	Certificate of Medical Examination for the United States Civil Service Commission, 1924
Folder 1121-124-002	Correspondence, 1902, 1913, 1925-1926
Folder 1121-124-003	Correspondence, 1930, 1933
Folder 1121-124-004	Correspondence, 1935-1936, 1939
Folder 1121-124-005	Correspondence, 1975, no date
Folder 1121-124-006	Edna Ashton's W-2 Withholding statement, 1949
Folder 1121-124-007	"If I Should Die To-Night" poem, unknown author, no date
Folder 1121-124-008	News clippings, no date
Folder 1121-124-009	Tax returns, 1949
Folder 1121-124-010	United States Post Office report of errors, misconduct, or meritorious service, 1930-1933
Folder 1121-124-011	United States Post Office report of errors, misconduct, or meritorious service, 1935-1942, no date
Folder 1121-124-012	United States Post Office statement of employee's record, 1935-1941